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its furtherance. The instruments of war have become even more terrible in their execution; demoniac destructives have been invented, such as gunnery, torpedoes, and other murderous explosives, by which means as many human lives can be destroyed by a few discharges as were sacrificed in an entire battle in the middle ages. (In the late Russo-Japanese war, Admiral Makaroff's flagship, "The Petropavlosk," with about seven hundred men, was destroyed by a single torpedo discharge.)

When a war is raging, the belligerent nations assemble each in their houses of worship and pray to God for the victory of their arms on the battlefield—that is, that the Lord may lend His aid to exterminate the enemy. In every case the prayer of each nation is, in part at least, answered, for thousands upon thousands of human beings are slaughtered by both armies.

It would be impossible, it seems, to abolish war within this present generation, as the continuous wars which have been raging for thousands of years have handed down the horrible practice until it has assumed the form of an instinct in the minds of the people. There can be only one way to obtain this object, and that is to root out the instinct of destructiveness by teaching the rising generation in the public schools to consider every act of violence and wanton aggressiveness as a crime where means are employed that become hazardous to human life. They should be impressed to harbor kindly feelings toward all mankind and to follow the command as expressed in the Bible:

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

A child's mind is easily formed by the impressions it receives. The early inceptions and acquirements of childhood will build up gradually its character. The faculty of imitation, being the first organ that is developed in the brain, becomes naturally a means of absorbing further intelligence. For this reason, children should be given good moral teachings, and it is imperative for their parents to set a good example that would encourage the children to follow them.

Constant education, in the sense heretofore mentioned, will by degrees bring about the extinction of the destructive instincts of the human mind. Crime and moral depravity will diminish and fraternal sentiments toward everybody will be engendered, regardless of creed or race.

BALTIMORE, MD.

## New Impetus for World Peace.

By Joseph H. Hannen, Secretary of the Persian-American Educational Society.

[The publication of this instructive article must not be interpreted as in any way committing the ADVOCATE OF PEACE to Bahaism as a whole. The peace features of Bahaism must interest all pacifists.—Ed.]

In these days of peace conferences and warlike preparations, of arbitration treaties and armed trespass, the Orient has sounded a fresh and dominant note which bids fair to be the clarion call for the realization of the parliament of nations. Particular interest attaches to the visit of Abbas Effendi, known as "Abdul Baha" (the servant of God), to the United States this spring, because of the effective measures for world peace undertaken by the Bahais, of which he is the central figure

today. His father, Baha'o'llah, is considered as a universal advocate of peace by the followers of this movement. Eminent orientalists and world-travelers credit the movement with several millions of followers, of every nation and religious system, and the cause is claiming thousands of converts in Europe and America. Briefly, its chief tenet is religious unity and solidarity and interdependence amongst the nations; the movement recognizes all of the great world religions as being inspired, and their truths are linked and apparent differences reconciled in a manner which establishes the history of religion and universalizes great principles. The most remarkable fact is that the teaching which shows such breadth was given to the world, more than forty years ago, from the heart of Persia. Its founders were persecuted by the Moslem world and spent a lifetime in imprisonment, exile, and banishment. Now the recent reforms in the Orient are traced directly to these teachings, and the prophecies of Baha'o'llah are being rapidly fulfilled. Abdul Baha, who does not call himself a prophet, but the servant of God, gives this interesting bit of history in regard to the movement of peace, in a letter sent by him to the secretary of the Mohonk Lake Conference on International Arbitration:

"About fifty years ago, in the Book of Akdas, Baha'o'llah commanded the people to establish the universal peace, and summoned all the nations to the Divine Banquet of International Arbitration, so that the questions of boundaries, of national honor and property, and of vital interests between nations might be decided by an arbitral court of justice, and that no nation would dare to refuse to abide by the decisions. If any quarrel arise between two nations, it must be adjudicated by this international court and be arbitrated by and decided upon like the judgment rendered by the judge between individuals. If at any time any nation dares to break such a treaty, all the other nations must arise to put down this rebellion."

It is recognized by students of world affairs that the greatest obstacle to world-peace is religious and racial differences. In trade conferences between nations of the Occident and the Orient, the delegates from eastern countries have withdrawn or refused to participate in banquets because their religious belief forbade eating with a Christian, or a Moslem with a Jew, a high-caste Buddhist with a Parsee, etc. Furthermore, there is always the menace of the "holy war," so-called, which the high pontiffs of the Moslem world may call at any time. This, in turn, is a survival of the Mosaic dispensation, so graphically described in our Old Testament. As long as the monarchs of Christian nations term themselves "the defenders of faith" (as though true religion needed any armed defense!), so long will the world be separated by great differences which engender warfare. The far-reaching effect of the Bahai teachings is herein seen, because through its precepts all religious, caste, and race prejudices are removed and war is forbidden. Bahais are forbidden to carry arms or to engage in warfare. Abdul Baha, in Paris, recently stated the position of the Bahais in this wise: "You are a people banded together to increase friendship among nations and races, and brotherhood among men. So now, while these men (referring to the armies of Italy and Turkey) are creating death, you think life; while they are guilty of cruelty, you think tenderness; while

they make destruction, you think construction; while they create war, you think peace." Quite a contrast this to the "God of battles," whose ministers, as chaplains, set the seal of approval upon warfare, and where, as in the case of rebellions within Christian nations, the same God is besought for victory by opposite sides.

It will be interesting to note the reception of Abdul Baha, whose message from far-off Persia has so encircled the globe, by the friends and advocates of peace in America. If the experiences of the past few months in London and Paris are repeated, he will be overwhelmed with invitations to address representative gatherings, and will be given serious and careful attention as an authority on this important subject.

The practical test of the strength of the movement is found in its numbers and in the effect of the teachings upon the lives of these millions, who are everywhere known as men and women of peace and advanced far beyond their fellows.

This world-peace movement, which goes to the heart of affairs in settling religious differences, originated in Shiraz, Persia, in May, 1844, and has been developed by three great teachers—the Bab, whose name means "Door;" Baha'o'llah, "The Glory of God;" and his son, Abdul Baha, "The Servant of God."

Much will be heard of the Bahai movement in the future, judging from its notable development where it is best known.

### The Chicago Office and the Field Secretaryship.

By Charles E. Beals, Field Secretary.

In Abraham Lincoln's home town, Springfield, Illinois, late in December, was held the 58th annual meeting of the Illinois State Teachers' Association. By invitation of the executive committee of the association, and at the request of the secretary of the American School Peace League, the Field Secretary was present on December 28 to assist in forming a State branch of said league. The association voted to form such a branch, and the nominating committee was empowered to name officers.

On January 5 the Gertrude House Training School for Kindergarten Teachers held special peace exercises. The local Peace Secretary spoke on "Achievements Toward Internationalism During a Century."

The 1912 *Chicago Daily News Almanac* devotes generous space to the chronicling of Hague decisions and a survey of the peace movement, crediting the compilation to the Field Secretary of the American Peace Society.

Prof. Charles Cheney Hyde, of Northwestern University Law School, an honored and useful member of the executive committee of the Chicago Peace Society, published a very important article in the January *North American Review*, entitled "The General Arbitration Treaties." One of his practical suggestions is that the United States members of the Joint High Commission, which is provided for in the treaties, be members of the Senate. He is of the opinion that an amendment to the treaties embodying such a provision would not be objectionable to any other signatory power. The article is one of the ablest contributions to the discussion of the treaties.

From the Chicago office letters were sent out to all local constituents, asking them to write to the Senators in behalf of the ratification of the treaties. Special literature accompanied these letters, so that busy men might inform themselves and act intelligently. That the suggestion was followed by some, at least, is attested by letters and copies of letters received at our office.

The Chicago office is being called on, with ever-increasing frequency, for literature. Most of these calls are from students who wish to equip themselves to compete for the various peace prizes. Occasionally a magazine writer applies to us for ammunition for a broadside.

A Nebraska State branch of the American Peace Society will be organized at Lincoln, Nebraska, on February 5. Dr. Emil G. Hirsch and the Chicago Secretary will represent the American Peace Society and deliver addresses at the evening session. Full particulars will be given in our next report.

A "Citizens' Mass-Meeting for the Advancement of International Peace" was held in the Chicago Auditorium, Sunday evening, January 7. Previous to the public meeting in the Auditorium a dinner was given, in the Francis I Room of the Congress Hotel, by the Hamilton Club, to the guests of the evening. This was followed by a general reception in the Congress Hotel.

The mass-meeting was under the auspices of the Hamilton Club of Chicago, in coöperation with the Citizens' National Committee. A score of affiliating societies assisted in organizing the meeting, and were represented by delegates officially appointed. Special music was rendered by the Hamilton Club Quartette. Mr. Henry C. Morris, chairman of the General Committee, presided. Bishop Anderson offered prayer. Hon. David J. Foster, Member of Congress from Vermont, delivered his splendid address which was printed in the January *Advocate*. Miss Addams spoke briefly, but voiced some big ideas. Rabbi Hirsch, in a powerful address, exposed some of Mr. Roosevelt's fallacies. Colonel Watterson captured the entire audience by the scintillations of his wit and wisdom. The diction was that of a master of the English language and literary style. The logic was unanswerable. The address was a piece of real eloquence such as one seldom hears nowadays. Hon. Charles W. Fairbanks, former Vice-President of the United States, delivered the closing address, showing the needlessness of war and the possibility of creating institutions which shall guarantee the permanent peace of the world. It was a great program and a great meeting. Not the least important and gratifying result of it was the unanimous adoption of a ringing declaration of principles, from which the following is an extract:

"We believe a failure on the part of the Senate to ratify said treaties will interfere inevitably with the inspiring movement toward universal peace which has made such splendid progress during the last few years.

"We accept with confidence the opinion of the President of the United States and other eminent constitutional authorities—each one a loyal American citizen, jealous of the honor and territorial integrity of his country—that the general arbitration treaties will not, in their practical working, involve any violation of the prerogatives of the United States Senate.

"We believe these treaties will greatly hasten the